

469-471 South Convent Avenue  
Barrio Libre (Barrio Histórico)  
Tucson  
Pima County  
Arizona

HABS No. AZ-73-41)

HABS,  
ARIZ,  
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30/41-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20243

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

## BARRIO LIBRE (Barrio Histórico)

ROMERO HOUSE, 469-471 SOUTH CONVENT AVENUE HABS No. AZ-73-41

Location: 469-471 S. Convent Avenue, Tucson, Pima County, Arizona.

USGS Tucson Quadrangle, Universal Transverse  
Mercator Coordinates: 12.502680 .3563970

Present Owner: Emma Romero Fimbres  
285 S. Scott  
Tucson, Pima County  
Arizona 85701

Present Occupant: Vacant.

Present Use: Residential.

Significance: This early transitional Sonoran adobe exhibits Anglo influences through its shingled pyramidal hipped roof and gabled dormer vent. One of a sequence of such dwellings, this row house is set flush with the street and contiguously with the structures on either side of it. It was probably converted in the early 1900s, as many Barrio dwellings were, from a single-family residence to a duplex. Showing signs of neglect and abandonment, exposed adobe shows through the plaster, and the roof is no longer functional.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: pre-1897.
2. Architect: None known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: See chain of title below.

Block 240, Lot 5, arb. 34 and 35.

1901 Deed, March 21, 1901, recorded in Volume 32, page 11.  
Corporate Authorities of the Village of Tucson to  
Jesus B. Tallmadge.

1912 Deed, September 26, 1912, recorded in Volume 52, page 394.  
Estate of Jesus B. Tallmadge to Juan Bojórquez.

1922 Deed, December 13, 1922, recorded in Volume 87, page 571.  
Estate of Juan Bojórquez to Juan Bojórquez, Jr.

- 1927 Deed, March 25, 1927, recorded in Volume 117, page 16.  
Juan Bojorquez, Jr. to Rosario Celaya et al.
- 1928 Deed, March 22, 1928, recorded in Volume 125, page 88.  
Trinidad B. de García to Refugio C. de Sapunar et al.
- 1929 Deed, April 20, 1929, recorded in Volume 135, page 270.  
Juan Sapunar to Rosario Celaya.
- 1933 Deed, February 23, 1933, recorded in Volume 168, page 415.  
Estate of Refugio C. de Sapunar to Rosario Celaya.
- 1943 Deed, June 1, 1943, recorded in Volume 258, page 19.  
Rosario O. Celaya to Edward E. Fimbres and Emma Romero Fimbres.
- 1945 Deed, June 25, 1945, recorded in Volume 282, page 295.  
Estate of Edward E. Fimbres to Emma Romero Fimbres.
- 1980 Deed, July 3, 1980, recorded in Volume 6314, page 497.  
Emma Romero Orosco to Judith and Julian Bernal.
- 1980 Deed, July 3, 1980, recorded in Volume 6314, page 498.  
J. L. Bernal to Emma Romero Orosco and Irene Vassallo.
- 1980 Deed, July 3, 1980, recorded in Volume 6314, page 502.  
Frank Vassallo to Irene C. Vassallo.
- 1980 Deed, July 3, 1980, recorded in Volume 6314, page 503.  
J. F. Bernal to P. E. Bauer.
- 1980 Deed, July 3, 1980, recorded in Volume 6314, page 519.  
Emma Romero Orosco to J. Kaufmann and Richard Shenkarow.
- 1980 Deed, July 3, 1980, recorded in Volume 6314, page 520.  
J. Kaufmann to Emma Romero Orosco.
- 1980 Deed, July 3, 1980, recorded in Volume 6314, page 524.  
Frank Vassallo to Irene C. Vassallo.
4. Builder: José Romero.
5. Alterations and additions: This duplex appears to have had no significant alterations or additions. The structure was probably built as a single-family dwelling, and was converted to a duplex prior to 1909.
5. Historical Persons and Events Connected with the Structure:

This property belonged originally to the Tallmadge-Bojorquez family who occupied several of the houses along this section of S. Convent Ave. José Romero, a blacksmith, was the first known tenant here.

His name disappears from the City Directory after 1910. Two absentee landlords, Rosario Celaya and Emma Romero Fimbres, owned the dwellings between 1927 and 1970, and rented them to a number of working-class tenants, both Hispanic and Anglo.

PART II ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION (See Significance, above, and Barrio Libre (Barrio Histórico) (HABS No. AZ-73) for site plan and historical background essay.)

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps.

Tract books, Pioneer National Title Insurance Company (Microfilm of Recorder's records).

Tucson City Directories, 1897-1979.

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September 1980

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service's National Architectural and Engineering Record (NAER) in cooperation with the Tucson Barrio Association, Inc. Funds for the project were provided by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office and the Arizona State Office of Economic Planning and Development. Under the direction of Robert Kapsch, Chief of NAER; Chief of HABS, John Poppeliers; and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect, the project was completed during the summer of 1980 at the HABS field office in Tucson, Arizona, by Robert C. Giebner, Project Supervisor (Professor of Architecture, University of Arizona); William Joseph Graham, Project Foreman (University of Maryland); Ann E. Huston, Project Historian (California State University, Sacramento); Maureen L. Gerhold, Assistant Historian (Pennsylvania State University); Student Architects Scott Marshall Dolph (University of Arizona); Carol Jean Lemon (Washington State University); and Harrison Adam Sutphin (Virginia Tech); and Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) Summer Youth Employment Program Interns: Maria Arriola (Tucson High School); Ernest Cota; Lupita Lopez (Tucson High School) and Anna Trinidad. Photographic records were made for HABS by David J. Kaminsky, Photographer, Roswell, New Mexico. Editing and final preparation of the documentation was carried out in 1981 in the HABS Washington Office by William Joseph Graham, Architect, and Lucy Pope Wheeler, Writer/Editor, of the HABS professional staff.